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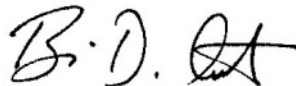
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice - CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 29, 2004, James White of ALLTEL and Thomas McCabe of TDS Telecom met with Lila A. Jaber, Commissioner, Florida Public Service Commission, and Greg Fogleman and David Dowds both of the Florida PSC and Joint Board staff. The discussion concerned Universal Service proposals related to support for "primary lines."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.D. Smith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian D. Smith

Counsel for TDS Telecom

cc: Lila A. Jaber
Greg Fogleman
David Dowds
James White
Thomas McCabe